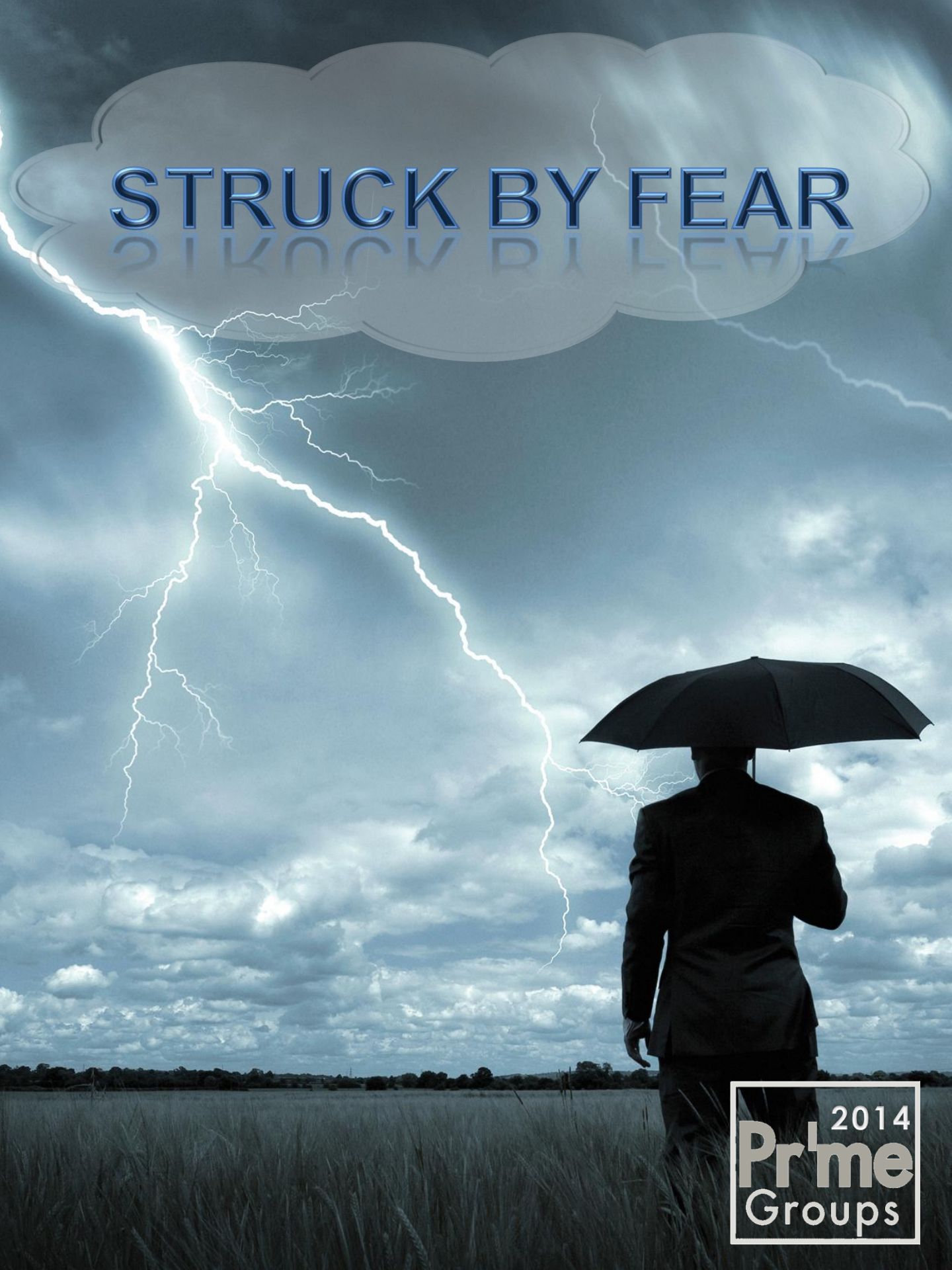


# STRUCK BY FEAR



2014  
**Prime**  
Groups

**The Point:** Shocking Truth: Fear Doesn't Fix Things

**Luke 12:25**

## Facing Anger in the Face

- Read Luke 12:25.** What stood out to you from this week's Point? (they can be funny, serious, stupid, or spiritual)
- This week's point is "Fear doesn't fix things," and when we talk about fear we also mean synonyms such as worry, stress, and being anxious. Mark Driscoll explained fear in all shapes and sizes. What kind of impact does fear and stress have on people's lives both physically and emotionally? Who or what do you think influences fear in people's lives?
- Mark made a few statements throughout his message that are compelling, but maybe not fully understood. Let's discuss those statements.

What do you think Mark meant when he said...

- ...fear is vision without hope.
- ...fear is not rational, but it is powerful.
- ...fear is sometimes not getting what we want.
- ...fear preaches a false gospel.
- ...fear causes Christians to be false prophets.

•What was the thing that you feared most or stressed over most as a child? What are some of the things that you fear most or stress over the most now? (**Here are some examples: fear of actual things or people, fear of criticism, fear of losing a job, being a people pleaser, giving in easily to peer pressure, fear of having enough...**) What drives are fears and do they seem inescapable at times? Why?

•Mark mentioned that fear is mentioned a lot in the Bible. Why do you think that is? Do you believe that fear represents a lack of trust in God? Why or why not?

•**Read Psalm 23.** David writes in this psalm that he will not fear even during the toughest times because he trusts in God. How can trusting God apply to eliminating the different types of fears and stress that we've already talked about?

•Just before Jesus ascended into heaven He gave His command to His disciples of what to do when He leaves. Jesus then leaves them with this statement: **Read Matthew 28:20b.** Why do you think that Jesus made this clear to His disciples?

•**Read Isaiah 41:10.** Mark shared a story about his 2-3 year old son that was afraid to travel to Scotland because his son thought he was making the journey on his own, but Mark's son's demeanor changed completely when he knew that his daddy was going to be with him all the way. In Isaiah, God promised Israel that He will be with them always and He has promised His church the same. He is our Father.

•Does it always feel like God is with you?

•Do you think that God is sometimes not with us? Why or why not?

•What is the difference between the times that you feel God is with you and the times that you don't? How do you think you can help make that more consistent in your life?

•What is one action that you think you can take to remove fear in your life?

## Thinking Outside the Box

•Here's a thought for you: How do you create fear in other people's lives and what do you need to do to change that? Note: *Answer this for yourself personally rather than for someone else in the room!* 😊

•**Read II Timothy 1:7.** How do you think what Paul writes here to Timothy applies to the fears we struggle with and fears we cause others?

## Bible Verses

### **Luke 12:25 (NIV)**

Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?

### **Psalms 23 (CEV)**

You, Lord, are my shepherd. I will never be in need. You let me rest in fields of green grass. You lead me to streams of peaceful water, and you refresh my life. You are true to your name, and you lead me along the right paths. I may walk through valleys as dark as death, but I won't be afraid. You are with me, and your shepherd's rod makes me feel safe. You treat me to a feast, while my enemies watch. You honor me as your guest, and you fill my cup until it overflows. Your kindness and love will always be with me each day of my life, and I will live forever in your house, Lord.

### **Matthew 28:20b (NLT)**

...And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

### **Isaiah 41:10 (CEV)**

Don't be afraid. I am with you. Don't tremble with fear. I am your God. I will make you strong, as I protect you with my arm and give you victories.

### **II Timothy 1:7 (NLT)**

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.